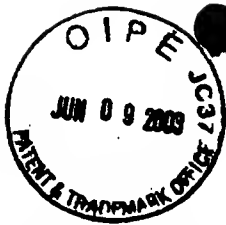


0446.67833



PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re U.S. Patent Application

Conf. No. 8281

Applicant: Ritter et al.

Date of Allowance: March 24, 2003

Serial No.: 09/786,239

Filed: May 17, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

For: FOOTWEAR SOLE AND ARCH  
STRAPPING SYSTEM

6/3/03

Date  
F-CLASS WCM  
Appr. February 20, 1998

Registration No. 30,270

Attorney for Applicant

Examiner: Stashick, A.

Art Unit: 3728

**AMENDMENT AFTER NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.312**

MAIOL STOP ISSUE FEE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with Rule 312, 37 CFR § 1.312, please amend the subject application by adding as the first sentence to the specification the following:

Cross-Reference:

C1      This application is a Section 371 application of PCT/US99/20297 filed September 3, 1999, which claims priority from U.S. Serial No. 09/148,306 filed September 4, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,061,929 and U.S. Serial No. 09/196,977 filed November 20, 1998, now abandoned.